

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-13. Canceled

14. (Currently Amended) A security assurance method for electronic information, comprising:

an electronic information file that is divided into a plurality of information elements, wherein the divided information elements are selected and combined with their order changed to produce two or more information blocks ~~such that, if~~ that each contain two or more of the information elements, wherein when all of the information blocks are not integrated, then all of the information elements are not included;

division extraction data is produced in which division information of said information elements and formation information of the information blocks are recorded;

said information blocks and the division extraction data are separated so that all of the information may not gather at a time;

at least one of said information blocks and the division extraction data that were separated is transmitted to and stored into a certification station while the others are stored or transmitted separately; and

when the genuineness of said electronic information is to be confirmed, all of the information blocks and the division extraction data including that stored in the certification station are collected and said information blocks are re-divided into the original information elements, re-arranged in the correct order and integrated based on said division extraction data to restore the original electronic information file.

15. (Previously Presented) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 14, wherein said division extraction data is stored or transmitted separately by different means from that with which said information blocks are stored or transmitted.

16. (Previously Presented) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 14, wherein said division extraction data relating to said information elements is annexed for each of said information elements.

17. (Previously Presented) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 14, wherein said information blocks and the division extraction data are stored into an external storage apparatus, and said external storage apparatus is disconnected from the system to keep the electronic information in security therein.

18. (Previously Presented) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 14, wherein a plurality of said information blocks are formed, and said blocks are transmitted in a separate state from each other to a recipient together with said division extraction data.

19. (Previously Presented) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 18, wherein said division extraction data includes data for confirmation of the originality of said electronic information file.

20. (Previously Presented) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 14, wherein one or more index information elements selected from among said information elements is included commonly into a plurality of information blocks, and when the information elements are integrated, the identity of the index information elements included commonly in an overlapping relationship in the different information blocks is verified to confirm the security of the information.

21. (Previously Presented) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 18, wherein at least one of said information blocks and said division extraction data is transmitted to the recipient by second transmission means different from the transmission means for the other electronic information.

22. (Previously Presented) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 21, wherein a transfer station is interposed in said transmission means or said second transmission means, and a block of the information to be sent by said transmission means is accommodated into an information package together with destination information and sent to said transfer station, which in turn transfers the information block to said recipient based on said destination information.

23. (New) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 22, wherein said recipient transmits the information block back to a sender for data verification of said transmission means or said second transmission means.

24. (New) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 20, comprising:

determining an abnormality in a corresponding information block when an alteration of a first index information element is detected during verification of the first index information element between two different information blocks.

25. (New) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 14, wherein said transmission changes an order of the information blocks, and wherein

said information blocks and the division extraction data is enciphered before said transmission or storage.

26. (New) A security assurance method for electronic information, comprising:
converting mutually consented transaction contents of a first party and a second party into an electronic information file that is divided into a plurality of information elements, wherein the divided information elements are selected and combined with their order changed to produce three or more information blocks each with a plurality of the information elements, wherein when all of the information blocks are not integrated, then all of the information elements are not included;

division extraction data is produced in which division information of said information elements and formation information of the information blocks are recorded;

said information blocks and the division extraction data are separated so that all of the information may not gather at a time;

at least one of said three information blocks that were separated is enciphered and transmitted to and stored into a third party certification station, the first party and the second party, respectively; and

when the genuineness of said electronic information is to be confirmed, all of the information blocks and the division extraction data including that stored in the certification station are collected and said information blocks are re-divided into the original information

elements, re-arranged in the correct order and integrated based on said division extraction data to restore the original electronic information file.

27. (New) The security assurance method for electronic information according to claim 26, wherein remaining information blocks and remaining division extraction data are stored by the first party and the second party.